



Date: June 27, 2005
To: Members of the Marine Advisory Commission
From: Mark A. Sandoval, Manager of Marinas and Beaches
Subject: MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 9, 2005
MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION (MAC)

Commissioners Present

Richard L. Miller, Chair
Bradley Whyte, Vice Chair
Mike Malbon
Holly Carpenter
Harry Hutton
Randy Crawford
Mike Reed
Peter Hogenson
Dave Calhoun

Marine Bureau Personnel

Mark Sandoval, Manager
Vivian Crook, Secretary
Beverly Glavas, Admin. Analyst
Dave Kinley, Supervisor ABM
Pam Cunningham, Marina Agent III
Kimarie Vestre, Special Events
Eric Skelly, Marina Agent II

City Staff

Mark Boone, Chief, Marine Safety, LBFD
Sue Prell, Sergeant, Marine Patrol
Herminio Contreras, Sergeant, Marine Patrol
Dave Akins, Officer, Marine Patrol
Robert Lafoon-Villegas, Admin. Analyst, 2nd Dist.
Julie Meliki, Asst. Admin. Analyst, 3rd Dist.

Commissioners Absent

Guests

Jim Rae, former Marine Safety Superintendent
Amy Bently-Smith, Grunion Gazette
Don Cobleigh, LBMBOA
Ted Kuhn, boatowner
Chris & Julie Sheldon, boatowners
Duane Rhynard
Jeff Phelps, Royal Flush

Chairman Miller convened the meeting at 2:30 p.m., at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

ROLL CALL

Mark Sandoval called the roll of commissioners and introduced Marine Bureau personnel, City staff, and guests.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The May 12, 2005, MAC minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Don Cobleigh, representing the LBMBOA and the Seal Beach Yacht Club (SBYC), spoke to the LNG (liquefied natural gas) program that has been proposed in the Port, stating that they are opposed to this program for safety and sailing reasons.
- Julie Meliki, Assistant Administrative Analyst for the Third District, gave an update on Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier improvements. She distributed a handout for an event to be held at the pier on Saturday, June 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Councilmember Frank Colonna will attend this event, which will include live entertainment and refreshments. The event will also include the unveiling of new benches with inscribed dates of important U.S. military events. The obelisk will no longer be part of the in-the-water project, it will be moved to an on-land location. Structural problems with the five flags to be placed on the west wing of the pier are being worked out. Funds raised through the sale of medallions, to be placed along the pathway of the pier, will cover ongoing maintenance costs.
- Mark Sandoval presented a ships wheel plaque to Marine Patrol Sergeant Susan Prell upon her retirement from the City after 34 years of service. Mark Sandoval gave a brief review of Sergeant Prell's background with the City. She first started in November 1971 with the Police Department as a Security Officer in the juvenile detention area. Then in May 1977 she moved to the Marine Department as a Harbor Patrol Officer where she then became the City's only female Marine Inspector. Sergeant Prell will retire as a Marine Patrol Supervisor for the Marine Patrol Division of the Long Beach Police Department.

Chairman Miller thanked Sue for her loyalty and dedication to the Marine Bureau. She will be greatly missed.

OLD BUSINESS

- The Operations Committee discussed their review of the presentation last month by Trace Marine Environment. Trace Marine is a private company requesting that the City establish an agreement with them whereby they will provide a monthly and on-call flush service to the boatowners of the Long Beach marinas, with a dollar per foot compensation. The Committee recommended that the Marine Bureau not enter into an agreement with Trace Marine. It was stated that the City already provides "no fee" pumpouts to the boatowners, and that boatowners have the option of using other pumpout services for a fee.

Don Cobleigh spoke for the LBMBOA and the SBYC and stated that they also were opposed to this item.

Chairman Miller stated for the record that the MAC would receive and file this recommendation.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mark Sandoval presented the 2005 Long Beach Marina Survey. This survey is done in compliance with the Marina Strategic Plan, completed in 1999, which contained a goal to "Provide outstanding services to marina users." This annual survey is conducted telephonically by an independent organization. He stated that 500 customers are randomly contacted, and that this is the seventh survey completed.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Whyte and seconded by Commissioner Malbon that the MAC accept the 2005 Long Beach Marina Survey as submitted by the Marine Bureau. The motion passed unanimously.

- Mark Sandoval reported on the annual CPI. He explained that a market survey was done in January of this year. He explained that the Long Beach Shoreline Marina is compared with the north market and is still double figures below the average rates, and that the Alamitos Bay Marina is compared with the south market and also double figures below the average rates.

Mark Sandoval stated that the Long Beach marinas will not be a market leader, and will not attempt to be a market leader. One of the reasons for higher rates than before is due to an increase in fuel and construction material cost. He requested that the MAC support the CPI increase to be effective October 1, 2005.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Whyte and seconded by Commissioner Malbon that the MAC support the CPI increase to be effective October 1, 2005. The motion passed with Commissioner Hutton opposed.

BUREAU MANAGER'S REPORT

Marina Operations Report

Mark Sandoval gave the report for the Marine Bureau Major Accomplishments, the Monthly Fund Budget Report for ABM/LBSM/RBH, the Total Vessels In and Out by Marina, and the Slip Status Report for the month of May.

- Revenues are still somewhat down due to the attrition program. The Bureau still needs a significant number of vacancies for the ABM rebuild.

Maintenance Operations Report

The Marine Maintenance status report for the month of May was distributed.

Marine Safety Report

Chief Mark Boone gave the Marine Safety status report for the month of May.

- Full-time staffing starts June 18.
- The Junior Lifeguard Program starts June 25.

Marine Patrol Report

Sergeant Prell reported on Marine Patrol activities for the month of May.

- The Gay Pride event went well and boatowner parking was maintained.
- Commissioner Reed stated that the Long Beach Marina Survey gave Marine Patrol good reviews.
- Commissioner Malbon asked about the shooting incident that occurred at the Aquarium. Sergeant Prell stated that the officer involved did everything by the book, and that the Police Department's internal evaluation showed that the officer did everything right.

Executive MAC

- All items covered.

Operations Committee

- Chairman Miller said that the sound system will be evaluated at Marine Stadium on Friday, June 10, at 10 a.m. He invited the MAC members to attend, especially those on the Operations Committee.

Facilities Committee

Commissioner Reed reported on Facilities Committee issues:

- A meeting was held with Aqualink, Marine Bureau staff, and Committee members to discuss a plan for ADA (handicapped) access to the Alamitos Bay Landing dock. He stated that the City came up with a reasonable plan for the Aqualink dock.
- In the LBSM, gangways Y, W and B are completed, and X should be finished this week.
- Dredging near the Catalina Landing will be done by the Army Corp of Engineers. A machine will be used to separate dirt from the sand. The majority of funds for this project will be provided for by the Army Corp of Engineers.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

- Chris Sheldon asked if there will be any spaces for catamarans after the LBSM rebuild is completed. He commented that he felt that a square foot by square foot slip fee is fair.

Mark Sandoval responded that there are extra-wide slips in most sizes that will accommodate wide vessels.

- Chris Sheldon, along with South Shore Marine, is putting in the docks at the pier. They are trying to get the job done as soon as possible, hopefully by July.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Chairman Miller announced that there will be a boat auction held on July 16 at the ABM office.
- Chairman Miller announced that there will be no MAC meeting held in August, and that all committee meetings will be cancelled for the month of August.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting is set for July 14, 2005, at 2:30 p.m.

cc: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
City Clerk